United Nations A/C.5/52/37

General Assembly

Distr.: General
13 February 1998

Original: English

Fifty-second session
Fifth Committee
Agenda item 142 (a)
Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations: financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Death and disability benefits

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The information contained in the annex to the present note is submitted pursuant to paragraphs 16 and 17 of General Assembly resolution 51/239 A of 17 June 1997, in which the Assembly, noted that as at 19 May 1997 the current backlog of death and disability claims awaiting processing was 564 claims and requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly quarterly written reports on the progress made in clearing the backlog.

2. In this connection, it should also be recalled that in the same resolution the General Assembly provided general temporary assistance resources funded from the support account in the amount of $158,500 for the 12-month period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998 for the sole purpose of processing the backlog of claims referred to in paragraph 1 above.

3. The first quarterly report, dated 28 October 1997 (A/52/538), presented information relating to death and disability incidents occurring up to and including 30 June 1997, indicating the total number of claims from the backlog that had been received since 19 May 1997, as well as the number of claims processed during the period from 19 May to 30 September 1997.

4. The present document constitutes the second quarterly report. The information presented in the attached annex indicates the total number of claims received from troop-contributing countries as at 31 December 1997, identifying the number of claims received since 19 May 1997. This information is presented by country (table A) and by peacekeeping operation (table B). A comparison of the total number of incidents of death and disability reported by peacekeeping operations as at 31 December 1997 and the related number of claims submitted to the Secretariat is presented in table C.

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Annex

A. Death and disability claims backlog report for incidents occurring up to and including 30 June 1997 as at 31 December 1997 (by country)

Country	*Claims received prior to 19 May 1997*	*Claims received post 19 May 1997*	*Claims processed from 19 May 1997 to 31 December 1997*	***Total claims awaiting processing***
Argentina	9	2	11	–
Austria	35	–	–	**35**
Bangladesh	27	–	–	**27**
Belgium	–	16	16	–
Brazil	–	1	–	**1**
Bulgaria	41	–	–	**41**
Canada	12	–	12	–
Czech Republic	7	–	7	–
Denmark	–	3	3	–
Egypt	42	–	–	**42**
Fiji	26	–	26	–
Finland	1	–	–	**1**
France	107	7	26	**88**
Germany	3	–	2	**1**
Indonesia	8	–	1	**7**
Ireland	37	11	46	**2**
Italy	56	2	54	**4**
Jordan	3	23	25	**1**
Malaysia	–	1	1	–
Nepal	–	5	5	–
Pakistan	1	6	7	–
Poland	64	31	92	**3**
Russia	11	–	–	**11**
Senegal	1	1	2	–
Slovakia	6	–	6	–
Spain	10	–	10	–
Thailand	2	–	–	**2**
Tunisia	2	–	–	**2**
Turkey	3	–	3	–
Ukraine	9	12	21	–

Country	*Claims received prior to 19 May 1997*	*Claims received post 19 May 1997*	*Claims processed from 19 May 1997 to 31 December 1997*	***Total claims awaiting processing***
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	23	–	23	–
Uruguay	2	–	–	2
Zimbabwe	16	–	1	15
Total	**564**	**121**	**400**	**285**

B. Death and disability claims backlog report for incidents occurring up to and including 30 June 1997 as at 31 December 1997 (by peacekeeping operation)

Mission	*Claims received prior to 19 May 1997*	*Claims received post 19 May 1997*	*Claims processed from 19 May 1997 to 31 December 1997*	***Total claims awaiting processing***
ONUMOZ	4	–	–	4
UNAMIR	3	11	12	2
UNAVEM	–	1	–	1
UNDOF	30	18	19	29
UNFICYP	9	–	1	8
UNIFIL	140	18	88	70
UNIKOM	2	2	2	2
UNMIH	2	1	1	2
UNOSOM	104	7	66	45
UNPROFOR	178	63	175	66
UNTAC	89	–	36	53
UNTAG	3	–	–	3
Total	**564**	**121**	**400**	**285**

C. Total number of death and disability incidents reported and claims submitted for incidents occurring up to and including 30 June 1997 as at 31 December 1997 (by peacekeeping operation)

	Death		*Disability*		***Total***	
Mission	*Incidents reported*	*Claims*	*Incidents reported*	*Claims*	***Incidents reported***	***Claims***
ONUMOZ	21	10	51	2	**72**	**12**
MINURSO	3	–	5	–	**8**	**–**
UNAMIR	22	15	43	2	**65**	**17**
UNAVEM	31	1	50	–	**81**	**1**
UNDOF	38	3	415	98	**453**	**101**
UNFICYP	162	3	87	13	**249**	**16**
UNIFIL	214	45	982	204	**1 196**	**249**
UNIKOM	7	4	27	–	**34**	**4**
UNMIH	5	4	4	3	**19**	**7**
UNOSOM	151	96	423	161	**574**	**257**
UNPROFOR	232	102	1 500	178	**1 732**	**280**
UNTAC	41	35	37	86	**78**	**121**
UNTAG	11	3	30	–	**41**	**3**
Total	**938**	**321**	**3 664**	**747**	**4 602**	**1 068**

United Nations A/C.5/52/38

General Assembly

Distr.: General
17 February 1998

Original: English

Fifty-second session
Fifth Committee
Agenda item 142
Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 49/249 and 50/224

Report of the Secretary-General

1. In its resolution 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973, the General Assembly made ad hoc arrangements for the financing of the United Nations Emergency Force, recognizing that, in order to meet such expenses, a different procedure was required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget, taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such operations, and bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963. In its resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989 concerning the financing of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group, the Assembly took the same approach, while reflecting certain changes in the groupings reflected in resolution 3101 (XXVIII). In this connection, the Assembly apportioned specified amounts to four groups of Member States, with such amounts to be divided between the Member States in each group in the proportions determined by the scale of assessments. The amounts specified for each group were established by a methodology intended to produce the following results:

(a) The Member States in group D (i.e., those specified in paragraph 2 (d) of resolution 3101 (XXVIII) and 3 (d) of resolution 43/232) would pay 10 per cent of the assessment rates established for the regular budget;

(b) The Member States in group C (i.e., those specified in paragraph 2 (c) of resolution 3101 (XXVIII) and 3 (c) of resolution 43/232) would pay 20 per cent of the regular budget assessment rates;

(c) The Member States in group B (i.e., those specified in paragraph 2 (b) of resolution 3101 (XXVIII) and 3 (b) of resolution 43/232) would pay 100 per cent of their regular budget assessment rates;

(d) The Member States in group A (i.e., the States permanent members of the Security Council) would pay the amounts not otherwise apportioned.

2. This ad hoc arrangement has been applied to subsequent assessments for peacekeeping, with the membership of the four groups having been adjusted from time to time by resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the most recent of which is resolution 51/218 of 18 December 1996.

3. In its resolution 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, the General Assembly decided to move Portugal from group C to group B in gradual stages from 1995 through 1999 in line with a voluntary decision by its Government. In its resolution 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, the Assembly

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decided, as a special ad hoc arrangement, to move Belarus from group B to group C on the understanding that the reduction in the United States dollar amounts to be assessed on Belarus beginning 1 July 1995 should be equal to the additional United States dollar amounts assessed on Portugal in accordance with Assembly resolution 49/249 A, on the basis that that decision would be adjusted as appropriate to conform with any future relevant decisions adopted by the Assembly.

4. In its resolution 50/224 of 11 April 1996, the General Assembly decided to move Greece from group C to group B in gradual stages from 1996 through 2000 in line with the voluntary decision of its Government and to begin the transition of Ukraine from group B to group C on the understanding that the reduction in the United States dollar amounts to be assessed on Ukraine beginning 1 July 1996 should be equal to the additional United States dollar amounts assessed on Greece in accordance with the resolution, on the basis that that decision would be adjusted as appropriate to conform with any future relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly. In addition, it was stressed that the decision did not result in any change in the assessments for financing peacekeeping operations of other Member States.

5. Subsequent assessments for peacekeeping activities have reflected these decisions on the rates of assessment for Belarus, Greece, Portugal and Ukraine. In 1998, however, the new scale of assessments for the regular budget has resulted in a significant increase for Portugal, from 0.28 per cent in 1997 to 0.368 per cent, and a significant reduction for Belarus, from 0.28 per cent in 1997 to 0.164 per cent. As a result of this and the further phasing-in of the effects of Portugal's movement from group C to group B, the dollar amount of the increase in Portugal's peacekeeping assessments owing to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/249 A now significantly exceeds the dollar amount needed to bring the peacekeeping assessment rate for Belarus fully into line with other Member States in group C, that is 20 per cent of the regular budget assessment rate. Indeed, it exceeds the full amount of Belarus' contribution. No similar situation exists at this point, with respect to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/224, but one may in the future.

6. Notwithstanding the references in General Assembly resolutions 49/249 B and 50/224 to equal dollar increases and reductions for Portugal/Belarus and Greece/Ukraine respectively, it is the Secretariat's view that it was the intent of the Assembly to reduce the assessments of Belarus and Ukraine to their levels as members of group C, only as such reductions were offset by increases in the assessments of Portugal and Greece, and that it was not the intent of the Assembly that the assessments of Belarus and Ukraine be below those that would otherwise apply to them as members of group C.

7. On that basis, the peacekeeping assessments for Belarus in 1998 have been calculated at the full rate normal for group C, with the balance of Portugal's increase being reflected in the relative overall share of group A in the usual way. The Secretary-General would intend to apply the same approach to Greece and Ukraine in future, should the same situation arise.

8. The General Assembly may wish to take note of the present report.